

MEDIA RELEASE

11th bi-annual mated ewe sale to offer genetic diversity at Detpa Grove

Detpa Grove's 11th Annual Bi-Annual Mated Ewe Sale returns on Tuesday 13th April. One of the most diverse genetic single vendor sales in the White Suffolk industry will offer 100 May-June lambing ewes and 20 July lambing ewes at the stud's on-property auction north of Nhill.

"It's probably the most diverse genetic on-property sale in the white Suffolk industry," stud principal David Pipkorn said.

"We always maintain some variation which means we're more flexible to move when the market moves, and we don't necessarily have to outsource genetics to change direction. However, consistent structural excellence and balanced performance is the main-stay".

The sale represents an opportunity for other studs to enhance their breeding program and gives new studs a sound starting point.

"Because there's a very diverse cross section of bloodlines being offered, people can raise a top son, unrelated to the majority of their ewes and breed on for years without concerns of in-breeding," Mr Pipkorn said.

The ewes were mated to Detpa Grove's 14-strong sire battery, with top home-bred ram NOBLE featuring 10 ewes in the sale. The offering represents an increase of 10 on the 2019 sale with a tremendous lift in quality.

"Due to high lambing percentages, we've been-culling the bottom end of our stud heavily for a long time and as you keep cutting hard, it keeps getting better," Mr Pipkorn said. "Once I'd selected this sale team off, they look spectacular as a group."

A comparison of Lamb Breeding Values averages compared to Detpa Grove's lambs in utero confirms the stud's genetic gains. Growth in muscle is well above the terminal average and other key traits are also above par on industry average values.

"Together with increased growth and muscle, maintaining fat and being mindful of eating qualities, our lambs are uniquely bred to enhance/correct structure, bone, length, type and balance. Historical results suggest a very uniform drop of lambs," Mr Pipkorn said.

As a member of the White Suffolk Association, all Detpa Grove animals are registered, and must be Ovine Brucellosis free.

Mr Pipkorn said the current drop was an exceptionally well structured, high performance group with a terrific balance of figures, great feet, bone, structure and type. Indications are the 2021 drop will be even better.

Starting at 1pm, the on-property sale will be conducted by Elders and interfaced live via AuctionsPlus. For sale updates and the latest news, visit www.detpagrove.com or the "detpagrove" Facebook page.